

molokaiReporter

Volume 1 Number 5

Molokai, Hawaii

January 7, 1970

Planners Study Proposal For New Molokai Hotel

The Molokai Advisory Committee to the Maui County Planning Commission is studying a request for permission to build a 200-room hotel on the shore near Kaunakakai.

Molokai Resorts, Inc., of Honolulu has asked for rezoning of seven acres of land at Kapaakea, about one mile east of Kaunakakai, from residential to hotel use. The corporation hopes to build a six-story hotel on the site.

The advisory committee, under Chairman Loy Cluney, will submit a recommendation on the rezoning request to the County Planning Commission.

The land at Kapaakea has been leased to Molokai Resorts by the Hawaiian Homes Commission. Under terms of the 65-year lease, the corporation is to pay a minimum of \$16,750 a year for use of the land.

A number of Molokai homesteaders objected to the hotel plan at a public hearing held last month at Kaunakakai. They argued that Hawaiian Homes land should be reserved exclusively for home-

sites for persons of Hawaiian ancestry.

James Clark, engineer for the homes commission, said the land was leased to hotel developers in order to raise money to support the work of the commission. He said Molokai Resorts intends to aid in development of homesites for Hawaiians on seven acres of land adjacent to the proposed hotel site.

Cluney said the committee would withhold a decision until it heard from the lawyer of a Molokai resident who is contesting ownership of the hotel land. Mrs. Beatrice B. Lewis said that she owns a lease on a portion of the land which the commission claims it owns.

Mayor Approves New Molokai Policemen

Maui County Mayor Elmer F. Cravalho has approved the hiring of 12 new police department employees, including two policemen for Molokai.

Cravalho said one new policeman is scheduled to be assigned to Molokai early this year and that another would be added in April. There presently are 12 men assigned to the police force on Molokai.

FHA Leasehold Financing Okayed on Neighbor Isles

Home financing insured by the Federal Housing Authority now is available for the purchase of homes on leasehold properties on Hawaii's neighbor islands.

George Romney, secretary of Housing and Urban Development, announced the change in FHA policy. Previously, FHA mortgage insurance involving leaseholds was available only on Oahu.

According to U.S. Sen. Hiram L. Fong of Hawaii, extension of this FHA coverage to the neighbor islands should be a big help in easing the state's growing housing shortage.

Shark Talk Set

An illustrated talk on the behavior of sharks is scheduled for tonight (Jan. 7) at 6:30 p.m. at the Maunaloa Theatre.

The talk will be offered by Dr. Albert L. Tester, senior professor of zoology at the University of Hawaii. His discussion will cover research on sharks throughout the world, shark control in Hawaii and methods of fishing for sharks.



Beach scene at Pukoo

(Sid Kent Photo)

March of Dimes Underway

The 1970 March of Dimes campaign to raise funds to fight the causes of birth defects now is underway on Molokai.

Kenneth Nip, Molokai campaign chairman, said funds raised through the national March of Dimes program helps support more than one hundred birth defects centers, including one at Kauaikeolani Children's Hospital on Oahu.

Donations also are used to sponsor medical research, pre-natal care education and pediatric surgery, plus scholarships for persons entering health professions.

According to the national March of Dimes organization, more than 250,000 babies are born with birth defects each year in the United States.

Aiding Nip in the campaign which will run through Jan. 31 are Beth Kincaid, Pearl Friel, and members of the Molokai Civitan Club.

Four Cars Stolen

Three cars and a station wagon were stolen at Kaunakakai and Hoolehua the morning after Christmas but--as usual on Molokai--the vehicles were recovered shortly afterward.

Capt. Edwin Naehu said the thefts were under investigation. One of the cars was damaged slightly, but apparently nothing was stolen from the vehicles, he said.

Pine Companies Ask Child Labor Variance

A hearing on a request by Hawaii's pineapple companies to increase the working hours of some of their seasonal employees is scheduled for Jan. 14 at 2 p.m. at the courthouse in Kaunakakai.

The companies are asking a variance from the Hawaii Child Labor Law to permit 15-year-olds to work up to 1:30 a.m. and to work a maximum of ten hours in one day and a maximum of 50 hours in a week.

If approved, the variance would be in effect for the summer of 1970 during the pineapple plantations' prime harvesting season.

The hearing was called by Robert K. Hasegawa, state director of labor and industrial relations. Hearings also are to be held on Oahu, Maui, Lanai and Kauai.

Drug Abuse Program

A program on drugs and drug abuse, prepared by representatives of the Waikiki Drug Clinic, is to be held on Molokai this month.

Tentatively scheduled to present the program are Dr. Neal Winn, director of the clinic, and associate director Leonard Elkind.

The program, latest in the 1969-70 Lyceum Series sponsored by the University of Hawaii, is to be held at 7:30 p.m., Jan. 14, at the Kaunakakai School cafeteria.

Join us
the molokai trio
Ann Abe Liza

HOTEL
MOLOKAI
EVERY WEEKEND

Reporter Commentary

There is some trouble brewing over plans of a Honolulu company to build a new hotel near Kaunakakai.

Molokai Resorts, Inc., of Honolulu wants to put up a 200-room hotel on land it has leased from the Hawaiian Homes Commission at Kapaakea, about one mile east of Kaunakakai. Hawaiian homesteaders--objecting to commercial development of homestead land--are fighting the plan.

The issue now is in the hands of Molokai's Advisory Committee to the Maui County Planning Commission and of the planning commission itself. These agencies have the power--subject to the approval of the County Council--to grant or deny a zoning change the developers need before they can get started.

We hope the advisory committee and the planning commission will proceed very cautiously before reaching their decisions. There are several objections to the hotel proposal which must be studied carefully.

Perhaps the strongest objection is voiced by homesteaders who point out that the land was set aside, by law, for the use of persons of Hawaiian ancestry. Although provisions of the law now permit some commercial development of Hawaiian Homes land, it still clearly is the intent of the law to make homesteads and land available to Hawaiians.

According to James Clark of the Homes Commission staff, the homestead land adjoining the proposed hotel site could not be developed without the financial help of the hotel developers.

However, the state legislature already has allocated \$240,000 for development of home sites at Kapaakea. This action was taken before plans for the hotel were formulated. It seems possible, therefore, that the legislature might be willing to provide all the development funds necessary, without the help of the hotel.

Harl H. Haas, president of Molokai Resorts, says his company would fill swamp areas on the seven acres of land it has leased from the Homes Commission and also on the adjoining seven acres of land set aside for home sites. He also says the company would expect to make financing available for construction of homes on this neighboring seven acres.

If the planning commission decides to grant the company's request for hotel zoning, these promises by Molokai Resorts should be made legally binding.

Haas also said Molokai Resorts plans a hotel that will add to the attractiveness of Molokai. This promise is hard to reconcile with the company's stated intention to build two six-story, 100-room structures on the site--on a level ocean front location where the highest building within miles is perhaps only half that height.

As County Planning Director Howard Nakamura indicated, Molokai possesses an "atmosphere" of natural and unpretentious beauty that should be maintained. Before any county action is taken, Molokai Resorts should provide some specific outline, or sketch, of the appearance of the hotel they have in mind.

Haas also said the hotel would provide employment for Molokai residents. This is not an extremely important consideration, however. Employment also will be provided by hotels planned at Puahala and at Molokai's west end, where hotels will be built by private developers on private land and where plans seem to be more completely worked out.

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Bus for Elderly

The Molokai Community Action Program has received a new Volkswagen van for use in providing transportation for elderly persons on Molokai.

CAP Director Fred Bicoy said "christening" of the bus, which was provided from a federal grant, would take place at CAP's Kaunakakai offices Jan. 9 at 10 a.m.

Bicoy said he will work with Molokai's senior citizens in working out a schedule for the bus, which will be operated by CAP staff members and by volunteers.

APOSTOLIC FAITH CHURCH

JESUS COMING SOON

Pastor Rodney S. Asano invites you to listen in to the Molokai Branch Church radio broadcast Sunday afternoon, January 11, at 4:30 p.m. on station KIKI, 830 on your radio dial.

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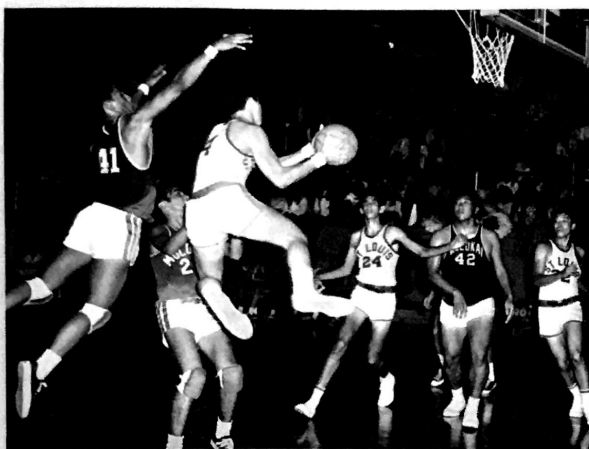
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HIGH JUMPERS--Steven Kakaio (41) of Molokai High goes up to block a shot by Kaipo Spencer (4) of St. Louis High during a game in Kaunakakai earlier this season. Molokai came out on the short end of the final score, 53-39. The Molokai squad's next contest will be against the Molokai High alumni at the school's homecoming game Jan. 24 at the Molokai Community Center gym. The 8 p.m. event will be preceded by a junior varsity game.

GrayLine Molokai

All of us at Gray Line Molokai would like to extend our New Year's Greetings to the people of Molokai and to thank you for your patronage and friendship during the past year.



Mrs. Ralph Moltzau of Maunaloa has been appointed to the board of directors of the Maui County unit of the Hawaii Heart Assn.

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Voices of Molokai

Don Graydon

POI, OH POI--Henry Yamashita's colorful commentary on the effects of tourist development on Kona: "All the grandmothers are wearing miniskirts and they're down working at the hotels, and nobody's picking the coffee beans."

WHAT HAVE THEY GOT TO HIDE?--The Molokai Reporter's first annual "Don't Quote Me" award goes by acclamation to Mits Watanabe. Tight-lipped runners-up: Bob Brown, Ralph Moltzau, Pearl Friel, John Tenbruggencate, Mike O'Keefe, Betty Puaa, Ed Shima.

DECEMBER DILEMMA--Letter from California: "We are going to have a live tree this Christmas. I know that will please you, except that it has to be cut from some forest. There are no simple decisions anymore, are there?"

OUTDOORS INDOORS--Inaugural events for the Friendly Isle's new sports club, Outdoors Molokai, include a pool tournament, ping pong competition and a dance marathon. And what happened to darts, Chinese checkers and canasta?

DUBIOUS DAFFYNITIONS--Luau: Hawaiian barbecue. Kamaaina: Inmate. Maui no ka oi: Maui's all we've got.

MARKSISM--Why not a Kalaupapa National Park, muses Richard Marks, after its days as a Hansen's Disease settlement are over? And why not a tramway to connect Kalaupapa with the rest of Molokai? Well, why not? And as long as we're dreaming: One of the most interesting solutions proposed for Molokai's dearth of county and state representation is secession. Under the plan, Molokai would separate politically from Maui and form its own county.

UP IN THE AIR--Here was the L.A. tourist on Molokai, where the air is so fresh you can smell the cars before you hear them. "And what have you been up to on Molokai?" she was asked. "Well, I've been doing lots of breathing."

PLASTIC PARADISE--Is anyone else willing to attribute the paucity of Aloha Week lei sales last year to esthetic insult, rather than civic apathy? The plastic two-tone orange creations looked like strings of miniature jellyfish and had the feel of dead mackerel. New Year's Resolution: seashell leis, or leis made of the bright imaginative paper flowers available today.

GRIN AND SHARE IT--Off-the-record comment on an experimental pineapple planting machine that has cost a Molokai plantation \$150,000 so far, but still hasn't learned its job: "This thing is supposed to have an automatic guidance system. I'd like to set the guidance system, and let the damn thing guide itself right across the pineapple fields and into the ocean."

FAIR FARE FERRY--The latest inter-island air fare hikes have kamaainas yearning even more for development of the long talked about passenger ferry between Molokai, Maui and Lanai. Dillingham Corp. says to hold on; they're working on it.

GROPING FOR GRIPES--When a faithful Bank of Hawaii customer is off-island and wants to cash a check, is it really cricket for the bank to charge him one dollar to call his home branch to see if he's legit? And who invented Hawaiian Tel's sadistic 30-inch length of non-stretchable cord on the pay phones? I get a crick in my neck just thinking about it.

THE HIP PARADE--Heady thought from a Molokai longhair, who believes George Murphy's Puu O Hoku Ranch is too beautiful for mere cattle: "Wouldn't it be nice to have a weekend rock festival and picnic out on the south forty?"

HOW'S THAT AGAIN?--Local hotel guest: "Do you have Japanese beer?" Waitress: "Asahi?" Guest: "Yes." Waitress: "No, we don't."

MARK SLATTERY-PHOTOGRAPHER

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Committee Plans Pensioners Club

A three-man committee is working on plans for an ILWU Pensioners Club on Molokai.

Serving on the committee are Regino Colotario, an employee of Del Monte Corp., and James Lindo and Mariano Acoba of Libby McNeill & Libby.

An organizational meeting for the club is to be held Jan. 30 at 3 p.m. at ILWU headquarters near Kaunakakai. There presently are 32 ILWU Pensioners Clubs in Hawaii providing services and activities for retired members of the union.

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BIRTHS

Mr. & Mrs. Segundo Alcan Sr., Kaunakakai, baby boy, Dec. 30.

Marriage Licenses

Michael James Mangca, 24, Kaunakakai, and Roberta Elia Geck, 26, Kaunakakai (formerly El Paso, Tex.), Dec. 23.

Clarence Adachi, 28, Kualapuu, and Diane Gormany, 26, Redondo Beach, Calif., Dec. 14

DEATHS

Mrs. Grace McCorriston, 48, passed away Dec. 22 at her home in Kaunakakai.

Volney Stone Jr., 27, passed away Dec. 16 at his home at Pukoo. Mr. Stone was an employee of the Road Dept. of the State of Hawaii, and lived for most of his life on Molokai. He is survived by his widow, Jacqueline, and four children: Volney III, 6; Vonda, 4; Volsha, 3, and Jacqueline, 4 months. He also is survived by his mother, Mrs. Sarah Pascua of Hoolehua, and by two brothers and four sisters. Burial was at Hoolehua Veterans Cemetery.

Church Elects

Kenneth Nip of Kaunakakai has been elected head elder of Molokai's Seventh-day Adventist Church for 1970.

Garfield Jorgenson, principal of the Molokai Mission School, also was elected to serve as a church elder, assisting in the work of Pastor Balbino Rabanal.

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Dr. J.C. McGraw, former pastor of the Kaunakakai Baptist Church, died at Abilene, Tex., Dec. 5. Dr. McGraw, who was chairman of the history department at Hardin-Simmons University at Abilene at the time of his death, was pastor of the Molokai church from 1946 to 1950. He is survived by his widow, Winnie.

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Letters

EDITOR:

It was indeed a pleasure to read Mrs. Gima's thoughtful and reasoned letter on fluorides in your Dec. 17 issue, when so much hysterical emotion and superstitious bellowing has surrounded this topic on so many occasions in the past.

Yes, there are shortcomings to fluoride in drinking water. Yes, there are two sides to everything. After all, the cigarette manufacturers still extol the immense satisfactions their product gives, and insist that tobacco's contribution to lung cancer is inconclusive. Oil companies minimize the hazards of pollution from either offshore drilling or automobile exhausts. Aspirin is a poison that takes many lives each year, and the Salk vaccine has been detrimental to some. So Dr. Lederberg has his axe, and grinds it.

Beyond a doubt, we are going to lay an egg now and then. Thalidomide comes to mind, and cyclamates. But if all chemicals were shelved until their benign efficacy is established to everyone's satisfaction beyond any reasonable doubt, we might wait longer for medical progress to benefit us than we are now doing for justice under the law.

Let the majority of experts qualified in their field decide what is good for us and our children--and them and theirs--and not become swayed when a few cultists and extremists sow their misgiven misgivings.

EBEN TURBAN
Maunaloa

EDITOR:

I feel you completely missed the meaning and thought behind a recent article written by Holiday Magazine Senior Editor Robert Carson,...

By the sound of your comments in your recent publication (Reporter, Dec. 3) concerning Mr. Carson, you have quite a bone to pick with tourists and people who write for tourists. Perhaps I can help by attempting to brighten your outlook on tourism, which is now the No. 1 industry in our beautiful 50th State.

Yes, Mr. Carson is a tourist and, Yes, he does write for tourists but, No, I and many others did not get the feeling that the October issue of Holiday Magazine left Molokai looking more like a museum piece than an island with real live people. Quite the contrary, this article portrayed Molokai as a real place where Old Hawaii can still be experienced and felt through its people and its surroundings. In essence, the article encourages people to come to this island to see how the people live and how enjoyable it can be.

If time was taken to read Mr. Carson's complete article one would note that he spent virtually very little print concerning the other islands, especially Oahu, and more or less featured the island of Molokai as the thing to see here in Hawaii. It is this type of promotion which will help Molokai to develop tourism-wise.

I say three cheers for Mr. Carson--here is a fellow who is helping to make us known to the rest of the world as a place to see and enjoy and who certainly would not believe in the implications mentioned in your article.

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